

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of

Amendment of Section 73.202(b)
Table of Allotments,
FM Broadcast Stations.
(Orofino, Idaho)

MM Docket No. 97-62
RM-9008

FEB 12 11 15 AM '97
FCC MAIL SECTION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING

Adopted: February 7, 1997

Released: February 14, 1997

Comment Date: April 7, 1997

Reply Comment Date: April 22, 1997

By the Chief, Allocations Branch:

1. The Commission considers herein a petition for rule making filed by Topaz Enterprises, Inc. ("petitioner") requesting the allotment of Channel 253A to Orofino, Idaho, as that community's second local FM transmission service.¹ Petitioner stated its intention to apply for the channel if it is allotted to Orofino, as requested.

2. A staff analysis of the proposal indicates that Channel 253A can be allotted to the incorporated community of Orofino (population 2,868),² in conformity with the minimum distance separation requirements of Section 73.207(b)(1) and (2) of the Commission's Rules, without a site restriction, utilizing city reference coordinates 46-28-48 and 116-15-00. However, as Orofino is located within 320 kilometers (199 miles) of the Canadian border, the Commission must obtain the concurrence of the Canadian government to the proposal.

3. Based upon the interest expressed in providing an additional local FM transmission service to Orofino, Idaho, we will propose to allot Channel 253A to that community, as requested. Therefore, we will seek comments on the proposed amendment to the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules, with regard to Orofino, Idaho, as follows:

¹Petitioner requested the allotment of Channel 277A to Orofino. However, that request is short-spaced to an earlier-filed rule making proposal to allot Channel 277A to Moscow, Idaho, in MM Docket No. 96-259 (RM-8905). Therefore, we have proposed Channel 253A on our own motion for consideration at Orofino to remedy the conflict.

²Population figure was taken from the 1990 U.S. Census.

<u>City</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Channel No.</u> <u>Proposed</u>
Orofino, Idaho	237C3	237C3, 253A

4. The Commission's authority to institute rule making proceedings, showings required, cut-off procedures, and filing requirements are contained in the attached Appendix and are incorporated by reference herein. In particular, we note that a showing of continuing interest is required by paragraph 2 of the Appendix before a channel will be allotted.

5. Interested parties may file comments on or before April 7, 1997, and reply comments on or before April 22, 1997, and are advised to read the Appendix for the proper procedures. Comments should be filed with the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554. Additionally, a copy of such comments should be served on the petitioner and its consultant, as follows:

Topaz Enterprises, Inc.
Attn: Dale A. Ganske, President
5546-3 Century Avenue
Middleton, WI 53562
(Petitioner)

and

Larry G. Fuss
Contemporary Communications
P. O. Box 1787
Cleveland, MS 38733
(Consultant)

6. The Commission has determined that the relevant provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to rule making proceedings to amend the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules. See Certification that Sections 603 and 604 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act Do Not Apply to Rule Making to Amend Sections 73.202(b), and 73.606(b) of the Commission's Rules, 46 FR 11549, February 9, 1981.

7. For further information concerning this proceeding, contact Nancy Joyner, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180. For purposes of this restricted notice and comment rule making proceeding, members of the public are advised that no ex parte presentations are permitted from the time the Commission adopts a Notice of Proposed Rule Making until the proceeding has been decided and such decision is no longer subject to reconsideration by the Commission or review by any court. An ex parte presentation is not prohibited if specifically requested by the Commission or staff for the clarification or adduction of evidence or resolution of issues in the proceeding. However, any new written information elicited from such a request or a summary of any new oral information shall be served by the person making the presentation upon the other parties to the proceeding unless the Commission specifically waives this service requirement. Any comment which has not been served on the

petitioner constitutes an ex parte presentation and shall not be considered in the proceeding. Any reply comment which has not been served on the person(s) who filed the comment, to which the reply is directed, constitutes an ex parte presentation and shall not be considered in the proceeding.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

John A. Karousos
Chief, Allocations Branch
Policy and Rules Division
Mass Media Bureau

Attachment: Appendix

APPENDIXMM Docket No. 97-62
RM-9008

1. Pursuant to authority ~~contained~~ in Sections 4(i), 5(c)(1), 303(g) and (r), and 307(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and Sections 0.61, 0.204(b) and 0.283 of the Commission's Rules, IT IS PROPOSED TO AMEND the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, as set forth in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making to which this Appendix is attached.

2. Showings Required. Comments are invited on the proposal(s) discussed in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making to which this Appendix is attached. Proponent(s) will be expected to answer whatever ~~questions~~ are presented in initial comments. The proponent of a proposed allotment is also ~~expected~~ to file comments even if it only resubmits or incorporates by reference its ~~former pleadings~~. It should also restate its present intention to apply for the channel if it is ~~allotted~~ and, if authorized, to build a station promptly. Failure to file may lead to denial of the request.

3. Cut-off Procedures. The following procedures will govern the consideration of filings in this proceeding.

(a) Counterproposals advanced in this proceeding itself will be considered, if advanced in initial comments, so that parties may comment on them in reply comments. They will not be considered if advanced in reply comments. (See Section 1.420(d) of the Commission's Rules.)

(b) With respect to petitions for rule making which conflict with the proposal(s) in this Notice, they will be considered as comments in the proceeding, and Public Notice to this effect will be given as long as they are filed before the date for filing initial comments herein. If they are filed later than that, they will not be considered in connection with the decision in this docket.

(c) The filing of a counterproposal may lead the Commission to allot a different channel than was requested for any of the communities involved.

4. Comments and Reply Comments; Service. Pursuant to applicable procedures set out in Sections 1.415 and 1.420 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates set forth in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making to which this Appendix is attached. All submissions by parties to this proceeding or by persons acting on behalf of such parties must be made in written comments, reply comments, or other appropriate pleadings. Comments shall be served on the petitioner by the person filing the comments. Reply comments shall be served on the person(s) who filed comments to which the reply is directed. Such

comments and reply comments shall be accompanied by a certificate of service. (See Section 1.420(a), (b) and (c) of the Commission's Rules.) Comments should be filed with the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554.

5. Number of Copies. In accordance with the provisions of Section 1.420 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, an original and four copies of all comments, reply comments, pleadings, briefs, or other documents shall be furnished the Commission.

6. Public Inspection of Filings. All filings made in this proceeding will be available for examination by interested parties during regular business hours in the Commission's Reference Center (Room 239), at its headquarters, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.